

BEFORE  
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
DOCKET NO. 91-064-C - ORDER NO. 91-515 ✓  
JUNE 21, 1991

IN RE: Application of Southern Bell Telephone )  
and Telegraph Company for Approval of ) ORDER  
Revisions to its General Subscriber ) APPROVING  
Service Tariff (Tariff No. 90-233-011+ ) TARIFF  
Blocking for Public Telephone Access )  
Service Providers) )

On December 17, 1990, Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company (Southern Bell) filed with the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) for approval of revisions to its general subscriber service tariff. The purpose of this filing was to add central office blocking of 011+ calling to Optional Service Features presently offered to public telephone access service providers.

This matter was duly noticed to the public and a public hearing was held in the Commission's Hearing Room on May 7, 1991, the Honorable Marjorie Amos-Frazier, presiding. The Company was represented by Fred A. Walters, Esquire, and the Commission Staff was represented by Marsha A. Ward, General Counsel. The Company presented the testimony of C. L. Addis, in support of its tariff revision.

Based on the information filed by the Company and the testimony adduced at the hearing, the Commission makes the

following findings and conclusions:

1. That the purpose of the tariff filing (PSC Tariff No. 90-233) is to provide for the blocking of direct dialed calls from customer owned coin telephones (COCOTS) to telephone numbers outside the North American Number Plan.
2. If the Commission approves this service, an end user attempting to place an international direct distance dialed call using the 011+ dialing pattern from a COCOT equipped with this feature, the end user will receive an announcement advising that the call cannot be completed as dialed.
3. During the hearing, the Company proposed to revise its study of the cost of providing the service and proposed a monthly increase of \$1.00 in instead of the \$2.00 increase as filed in its tariff revision. Therefore, the proposed rate would be \$3.00.
4. Southern Bell proposes this tariff in response to requests from COCOT providers who have stated that they need blocking in the central office switch to prevent international direct distance dialed (011+) calls from being completed from and billed to customer provided public telephones. The blocking of the switch is necessary to prevent fraud.
5. Although this blocking option prevents direct distance dialed international calls, an end user attempting to originate an international direct distance dialed call will be advised via a recording that there are instructions on the phone on how to make an international call through the operator.
6. Southern Bell had advised all COCOT companies operating

in South Carolina of its proposed tariff and no negative comments have been received by the Company.

7. The Commission has determined that the procedure to block direct dialed calls from COCOT phones is in the public interest as it protects the COCOT provider from having to pay for fraudulent calls placed through its phone. Additionally, the end user will still be able to make a international call by following the particular instructions on the telephone.

8. The Commission has determined that the proposed rates and charges as revised at the hearing are reasonable and should be approved.

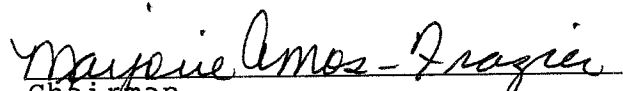
IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. That the proposed revised tariff of Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company requesting to block direct dialed calls from customer owned telephones to telephone numbers outside the North American Number Plan should be approved as amended at the hearing.

2. That the Company should file tariffs reflecting the approved rates and charges within ten (10) days from the date of this Order.

3. That this Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

  
Chairman

ATTEST:

  
Executive Director

(SEAL)